

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WELFARE-TO-WORK

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TO: SERVICE DELIVERY AREA ADMINISTRATORS
PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSONS
WELFARE-TO-WORK 15 PERCENT SUBGRANTEES
DOL WELFARE-TO-WORK 25 PERCENT SUBGRANTEES
COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES STAFF
EDD EXECUTIVE STAFF
WID STAFF

SUBJECT: WtW ADVISORY GROUP MEETING MINUTES—JUNE 14, 2000

The minutes and revised agenda from the Welfare-to-Work (WtW) Advisory Group meeting held at the Employment Development Department, Workforce Investment Division in Sacramento on June 14, 2000, are attached for your review and information. Please ensure that the minutes are provided to the appropriate staff.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact Brett Lapp at blapp@edd.ca.gov or (916) 654-7961.

/S/ JIM CURTIS, Chief
Research, Evaluation, and Demonstration Projects Division

Attachments

WELFARE-TO-WORK (WtW) ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

Workforce Investment Division, 750 N Street, Conference Room A
Sacramento, California
Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Agenda

Welcome and Opening Remarks	Suzanne Nobles, California Department of Social Services/ Jim Curtis, Research, Evaluation, and Demonstration Projects Division
Agenda Building	All
Federal Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WtW Regs• New Reporting Instructions• Extension Request Status	Ralph Zackheim, Department of Labor (DOL)
Match Money <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How Is It Being Used/Coordinated with Local Programs	All
Timed Out California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids program Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How Can They Be Served by WtW?	All
Community Service Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impact On Those Enrolled and Served by DOL Funded Services	All
Practical Program Designs Regarding Non-Custodial Parents	All
Outcomes From Seattle Meeting	Judy Reichle, Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
Collaborative Efforts Between Service Delivery Areas and County Welfare Departments	All
WtW Advisory Group Meeting Schedule	All

WELFARE-TO-WORK (WtW) ADVISORY GROUP MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Welcome and Opening Remarks—Jim Curtis, Employment Development Department (EDD), and Suzanne Nobles, California Department of Social Services (CDSS), announced that five forums have been scheduled throughout the State to provide a WtW update to the State's WtW community. The forums will focus on new federal regulations, regionalized best practices and the use of State matching funds. Currently, the forums are scheduled for Redding, Sacramento, the Bay Area, Fresno and Southern California. Additional invitees to the forums will be the new Child Support Department and Independent Living programs.

Federal Update—Ralph Zackheim, Department of Labor (DOL), said that the WtW regulations and new reporting instructions are at the Office of Management and Budget for review. Ralph suggested that the WtW community visit the DOL Web site Questions and Answers page for the latest transportation information.

Ralph said that a letter was sent to all Governors regarding extension requests expressing concern about the amount of time left for WtW funds.

Match Money—Jim Curtis, EDD, said that a few of the counties are subgranting their State matching funds to local Private Industry Councils.

Gail Sullivan, CDSS, said that CDSS is trying to escalate the use of State matching funds. There is potential of increasing the number of participants by using the matching funds, since the eligibility requirements for the use of matching funds eases July 1, 2000. There is no administrative cap and no 70 percent/30 percent usage requirements for matching funds.

Timed-out California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Participants—Suzanne Nobles, CDSS, informed the advisory group that Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) allows for grant-based training after an individual has timed-out.

A question was raised asking if there was any way to serve a CalWORKs participant with WtW funds who has timed out? The answer was that a person could be served with WtW funds so long as the individual was enrolled in the WtW program prior to timing out.

Community Service Requirements—Some questions were raised with regard to community service. Questions of note included:

- Can community service be considered training for the six-month rule in the WtW regulations? Yes
- Can you co-enroll a person who is in community service and have the hours spent in such an activity be counted for both programs? No

Lynora Sisk, EDD, suggested that it would be beneficial to develop an information bulletin that outlines some of the allowable activities a WtW grantee could provide to a person who is currently performing community service. The Advisory Group agreed and requested a review of the information bulletin prior to its dissemination. An ad-hoc committee was established for the sole purpose of reviewing the bulletin.

Practical Program Designs Regarding Non-custodial Parents (NCP)—

Mary Bernard, San Diego Workforce Partnership, said that San Diego is working closely with the local District Attorney's office to implement a program that provides a judge with the option to require an NCP to participate in the WtW program.

It was suggested that a speaker from the Institute for Responsible Fatherhood be invited to speak at the August 23, 2000, meeting.

Other NCP topics such as child support owed, options available to encourage an NCP to continue employment and the underground economy were discussed.

Outcomes from the Seattle Meeting—Judy Reichle, Community Colleges Chancellors Office, provided handouts regarding outcomes of the Seattle meeting as well as other items of interest.

One of the handouts displayed a Job Ladder Career Pathways for four different industries (manufacturing, customer relations, information technology and health services). Ms. Reichle explained that community colleges are working with employers in establishing curriculum that focuses on the necessary skills required for an individual to be successful in that career path/industry. Employers are signing contracts with community colleges for individuals entering training of certain career paths.

Ms. Reichle shared some of the issues that were discussed during the Seattle meeting. One item of note was regarding the timing of programs. The discussion centered on at what point would an individual transition from CalWORKs to the Workforce Investment Act program and where would community colleges fit into serving participants.

Ms. Reichle said that it was pointed out at the Seattle meeting that previous experience with CalWORKs clients suggests that a CalWORKs participant usually requires at least a six month stabilization period before the introduction of wage advancement options (post-secondary education or additional vocational education) should be considered.

Ms. Reichle announced that funding has been provided to Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation to conduct a study regarding employment retention and wage advancement practices and identifying what is and isn't working.

Ms. Reichle also indicated that TANF funds could assist individuals through post-secondary education.

WtW Advisory Group Meeting Schedule—The next WtW Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2000. The following items will be included on the agenda for the August meeting:

- Fatherhood Initiative
- Child Support Issues
- Update on WtW Regulations and Reporting Requirements

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.